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INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT Soviet Contact with the Somali Youth League

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1. Hasan Elmi, alias Behi, of the Shaikal Tribe, acts as an unofficial inspector of the Somali Youth League. In June 1948 he went to Ethiopia and was in touch with one Pitkov, a member of the Soviet Mission in Addis Ababa. Ali Behi, of the Omar Muhammad Tribe, was in touch with Pitov at about the same time. (COMMENT: There is no member of the Soviet diplomatic or medical mission by the name of Pitkov known in Addis Ababa. One Ivan Gavrilovich Titov was in Addis Ababa as a diplomatic courier between 12 and 16 July 1948. This is the first indication locally that the Russians may be active in the Somali Youth League. The Soviet Legation may be attempting to foster trouble between the Ethiopians and the Galla tribesmen through Elmi, Behi and the Youth League.)
 2. The documents used by the Somali Youth League at the United Nations Conference in Paris were sent by the Soviet Consul General in Addis Ababa to the Soviet Embassy in London and were collected there by a representative of the League.
 3. Abdullahi Issa Muhammad, Secretary General of the Somali Youth League, left Mogadishu by air on 28 October for London. It is not known which route he used.

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